

REMARKS

Reconsideration and removal of the grounds for rejection are respectfully requested. Claims 1-21 were in the application, claims 1-21 have been cancelled and new claims 22-41 have been substituted therefore.

The Examiner objected to the drawings as failing to show any structural detail essential for a proper understanding of the claimed invention. However, this objection is believed to be moot in view of the cancellation of original claims 1-21, and the presentation of new claims 22-41, as will be discussed more fully below.

The examiner objected to the specification and abstract, as well as the claims as being difficult to understand. As the examiner requested, a substitute specification, with an amended abstract, is enclosed. In addition, new claims are also being submitted that are believed to render moot the objection, and satisfy the requirement for clearly describing the applicants' invention.

In particular, the applicants' invention relates to a method for controlling telephone connections for internet protocol communications by providing a message protocol. That is, as described in the original summary of the invention, messages are used to facilitate communication between an IP phone and an Ethernet PBX, with the invention providing a message template that "wraps" the messages communicated between the IP phone and the PBX. (p. 3, l. 6-8) The message template is added to each message generated, comprising a Protocol Header that includes a Prototype indicator, a Device Number indicator, and a message type indicator. The example on page 3, lines 11-47 shows the protocol header before and after the message itself, to bracket or wrap the message that is being communicated.

The detailed information on various messages that appear on pages 5 through 19 are examples where this message protocol is used with specific messages, illustrating the information in the Protocol Header used to facilitate the exchange of message body information. A summary paragraph has been added at the top of page 5 to state this for further clarifying the specification.

With reference to the Figures, these illustrate the exchanged messages that are generated and transmitted between the PBX and one or more IP phones, each generated message provided

with the message protocol as described above. Consequently, the method of the invention, as presented in new claims 22-41, is adequately described and supported in the specification, and drawing corrections are not necessary for one skilled in the art to understand the claimed invention.

In view of the above, the objections to the specification, claims, abstract and drawings are believed to have been rendered moot by this amendment and the presentation of the substitute specification.

The rejection of claims 1-21 under 35 USC 101 is also rendered moot, as the claims to specific messages have been cancelled, and claims to a method for encapsulating messages using the protocol header have been substituted therefore, and this is proper patentable subject matter.

The rejection of claims 1-21 under 35 USC 112 is also rendered moot by their cancellation.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested. However should the examiner believe that direct contact with the applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of the application, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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